



The front of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal features a shield adapted from the Great Seal of the United States. The back includes the eagle, serpent and swords from the medal's front-side design along with the inscription "War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal." The medal's final approval was announced Feb. 26.

## Defense Department introduces Global War on Terrorism Medals

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – Military members serving at home and abroad in the war on terrorism will now be recognized for that service. Defense officials announced today the final approval of two new medals and their criteria.

Individuals who have deployed to operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom will be awarded the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal will be awarded to those who served in airport security operations in the United States following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks or who supported operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle or Iraqi Freedom.

"These medals recognize the significant contributions members of the armed forces bring to bear in combating terrorism in all forms throughout the world - - for both current and future operations," stated a DoD news release.

Individuals can receive both medals if they meet the individual criteria, officials said.

To be awarded the expeditionary medal, individuals must have been deployed outside the United States for OEF or OIF for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days. The time requirement is not needed if the individual engaged in combat, was wounded or killed in action, or was medically evacuated for any reason, officials said.

The area of eligibility encompasses the U.S. Central Command area, excluding the lower Horn of Africa; Middle East; eastern Turkey; Philippines; Di-

ego Garcia; and all air spaces above the land and adjacent water areas, according to the release.

Each day aircrew members fly sorties into designated areas counts as one day of deployment toward the 30- or 60-day requirement.

Individuals engaged in actual combat may be eligible for battle stars on the expeditionary medal. Only a combatant commander can initiate a request for a battle star, and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the approving authority for them, the release states.

Personnel eligible to receive the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal must have participated or support operations on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Service medal eligibility dates run from Sept. 27, 2001, until May 31, 2002, for individuals who served in airport security operations.

The same 30- or 60-day requirements apply to the service medal as to the expeditionary medal.

"Each military department will prescribe appropriate regulations for processing awarding and wearing of the medals and ribbons for their service members, to include application procedures for veterans, retirees, and next-of-kin," the DoD release stated.

### PAY

All military pay issues should be addressed with CWO-2 Ian Anthony at the administration office in building 211, 824-2560.

## Technology enhances X-ray abilities of Medical Facility

*Story by Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Schmidt*

Michaud Medical Facility recently received a state-of-the-art digital radiography system enhancing capabilities for developing and reviewing X-rays.

The system consists only of a laptop computer, portable X-ray machine and an image-scanning machine.

Digital radiography has several advantages over standard radiology equipment. Digital radiography will save the command approximately \$1,000 per month, said Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Kevin Smith, the Expeditionary Medical Unit's X-ray technician.

Because the EMU uses recyclable plates and scans images into the computer, there is no need to purchase additional film or chemicals once required for developing.

Rather than mailing films to medical treatment facilities in Europe or the United States for final reports, digital radiography allows EMU medical providers to electronically transfer images via a telephone line. Radiologists can quickly provide interpretation and consultation to medical providers of the EMU to assist them in making important diagnoses.

Because the films are digitalized, the image may easily be stored on disk and retrieved for future use.

Also, digital films may be electronically altered in order to derive key information. The orthopedic surgeon can measure the size of a fracture or the angle of a particular break. Films can be darkened or lightened in order to enhance abnormal or questionable findings. Images can be magnified to identify the most subtle findings.

Another great plus to digital radiography is the physical space required to house all of the equipment.

"What once took approximately 100 square feet now takes only 30," said Smith.

Because the computer alters the films, digital radiography now decreases unnecessary radiation exposure to the patient.

*See X-ray Page 6*



*Photo by Cpl. Adam C. Schnell*

Petty Officer 1st Class Kevin Smith, X-ray technician for the Expeditionary Medical Unit, looks at an image taken by the EMU's new digital X-ray machine here Mar. 3. The new, portable machine increases the EMU's capabilities to better care for the service members supporting Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa.